

Abstract

1,2-Diimines having at least one nitrogen-containing heterocyclic group bound via a nitrogen atom to at least one of the two imine nitrogen atoms can be used as ligands for preparing metal complexes with transition metals of groups 8, 9 or 10 of the Periodic Table of the Elements which can in turn be used as catalysts for the polymerization of unsaturated compounds. A process for preparing polyolefins by polymerization of unsaturated compounds in the presence of an activator and the metal complex as catalyst is provided.